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Subject: Comments on EIR report of Nov.7

I am a resident near the airport. I am under the alternative runway but hear airport noise. Our house rattles with the two 9:30pm departures each night and I can set my alarm clock to the 7am *non-Airbus* departures when the airport runways open.

I strongly in favor of and encourage the full and large scale renovation of the airport terminal.

The proposed renovations are good for the city, the residents and the region. Long Beach is already the largest city in the nation without it's own media market (no TV, no commercial radio, one very regional paper) and we have a mickey mouse airport. This is a significant 'infrastructure' issue that my son and his future son will appreciate 40 years from now.

Either we are a city with real and functional airport/terminal or close the airport and accept that we are a small Lakewood-style suburb.

To the opponents on the council and the minority of residents but who also live immediately under the flight path, several thoughts:

- 1) I passed on a house right under the flight path. Unless you bought your house before 1930, well?
- 2) It's a **renovation**. If we do not permit renovation of the airport because of the theory that it will 'lead to more flights', then we should also stop all renovations to homes, streets and sewers in the local neighborhoods also. Using their reasoning, it will lead to more people living in my house because I added a den, more cars driving down my nice new smooth street and increased waste in the sewers (I could have used a different word).

3) The future does still get better for you. The quieter Airbus jets continue to replace out the old, louder Boeing jets. I remember the old 727's. Now that was noise.

I am sypathetic to Councilperson O'Donnell and Councilperson Gabelich who represent those homeowners that chose to live under the flight path pre-911 when the slots were rarely used. However, this is again an issue that effects the entire city. Ever since our community went from citywide to district representation in the 70's, our 'leadership' has chosen more often than not to take sub-standard compromise over strong and 'right' direction. And as such, our great city has slipped in the region in functionality and perception.

Leadership is not a popularity contest. In fact, Imagine if as parents we only did what our kids liked as opposed to making the right decisions for them? Yes, elections are largely a popularity contest but leadership (and parenting) is not.

Why does our city, from which I am born and raised, always sell short. Let's do this right.

Please do what is best for our city and start the renovation and do it at the <u>larger/best</u> scale we can.

Or, take the alternative option that would fully address the noise issue -- not the renovation issue -- and shut the airport down.

Either do the airport right or close it.

John Costello

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